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The Central Florida Future

VOL. 29 • No. 27

SERVING THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA SINCE 1968

Nov. 26, 1996

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from *The Central
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Senate moves for impeachment in predawn hours

by RYAN ANDERSON
News editor

With the holiday seasons quickly approaching, Student Government Senators are in the giving mood; no, not in giving money for clubs and organizations, but giving the Student Body President, the Chief Justice and Chief Election Commissioner the gift of impeachment.

Another year, another controversy at Student Government.

Providing the fuel for this latest SG controversy is Kevin Koenig. Koenig, the former sena-

tor who lost his Presidential and Senate reelection bid, filed an affidavit with the Senate, alleging that SG President Aaron Scavron has acted improperly.

In the past six months, Koenig has attempted to start five separate impeachments on SG officials, all without success. In addition, Koenig, filed a lawsuit against UCF President John Hitt for suspending SG last year.

Scavron feels there is an ulterior motive behind this latest impeachment affidavit.

see IMPEACHMENT, page 3



photo/SOILEAU

Student Government president Aaron Scavron called for unity in an address to the Student Senate Thursday night.

Students seek to quicken emergency response time

by RYAN ANDERSON
News editor

Emergency vehicles respond to calls from the UCF campus an average of two to three times a day. It takes around 20 minutes for the vehicles to get on campus for each call.

In an emergency, every second counts.

One new group on campus is seeking to cut down the time it takes for paramedics to respond to emergency calls at UCF.

The UCF Rescue is a new student emergency response team organized with the help of Orange County Fire and Rescue and the UCF police department.

"We will respond to all 911 type medical calls on the UCF campus," UCF Rescue organizer Jason Eichenholz said. "Our purpose is to get trained medical personnel on the scene quickly."

In addition to gaining the

support of fire stations and UCFPD, the UCF Rescue has also found an ally in Student Affairs. According to Eichenholz, Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. LeVester Tubbs, is fully behind the project.

"This isn't a totally new idea, it just hasn't been tried here yet," Eichenholz said. "Every one I have talked to has been very supportive of the idea. With the support we have so far, I don't think anything can stop us from realizing our goal of getting this program in place on the UCF campus."

Under the preliminary plan, an emergency vehicle equipped with all of the necessary life saving equipment would be stationed somewhere on campus. The UCF Response team would pick up the vehicle and respond to the emergency within about four minutes instead of 20 minutes.

see RESCUE, page 2

LADY KNIGHTS TAKE TAAC



PHOTO/SAGINARO

THE UCF VOLLEYBALL TEAM WON THE TAAC TOURNAMENT SATURDAY AFTERNOON AND NOW FACE FAMU TONIGHT AT THE UCF ARENA TO DETERMINE WHO WILL BATTLE IN THE NCAA TOURNEY.

Parking Services finds unique revenue generator

by OMAR DAJANI
Staff writer

First among Florida's state universities, the UCF parking services department Sept. 1 began writing a \$40 ticket for students or faculty who park on campus with an expired state-issued license tag. As one of the highest amounts on UCF's schedule of parking violation fines, the \$40 exceeds the amount collected from a uniform traffic citation, the yellow ticket issued by police officers of any city, county, or municipality.

UCF police officer Gerald A. Emert proposed the new parking regulation through the Incentive/Efficiency Program last year in the hope of being rewarded a percentage of the money collected from tickets issued, he said. Although his suggestion was eventually adopted, Emert did not receive a financial award because the program's rules prohibit rewards from revenue generated

from fines or tickets, according to Laurie Bennett, coordinator of the IEP.

The addition of the new parking regulation "would mean thousands of dollars of income for the university parking services department every year," Emert wrote on Nov. 16, 1995 in a memo supporting his suggestion. "A conservative estimate for yearly income as a result of this suggestion would be well over \$10,000" which would result in a "creation of a new source of revenue for future parking projects."

To get around the requirement that a police officer is the only authority who can enforce a state traffic rule, the violation was written into UCF's Parking and Traffic Regulations, therefore allowing the civilian parking patrolers to issue the \$40 tickets.

Is a state university allowed to adopt in its parking regulations infractions from Florida's traffic laws? Mary Beth Liberto, UCF's



photo/COURSEY

Should people other than sworn police officers be able to issue tickets for expired tags? Some say yes, others no.

general counsel, declined to be interviewed or otherwise comment.

William Gladwin, Florida State University's attorney, said

"we have specific statutory authority from the legislature to write traffic regulations for the univer-

see PARKING, on page 3

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Average response is around 20-minutes

from RESCUE, page 1

"If someone is having a heart attack, waiting 20 minutes for an ambulance is just too long," Eichenholz said. "That happened here a few years ago when a professor had a heart attack on the jogging track and died. We will have all of the tools needed to help save lives and will be able to respond quickly."

According to Eichenholz, the closest rescue personnel to UCF are stationed in Orange County at State Road 50 and Bonnevill Rd., and off Lake Underhill Rd. near the East West Expressway. A fire station near Palm Valley in Seminole County also responds to calls on UCF.

"Usually, the Seminole County unit responds first but if they're out on another call it could be awhile before help arrives on campus," Eichenholz said. "Also, since Orange County transports all of its patients directly to the hospital instead of using a private ambulance service, the wait for help would be even longer if they are out on another call."

Plans are underway for a fire station off McCollough Road, but, according to Eichenholz, it would be at least a year before that station would be operational.

Nationwide, there are about 150 student EMS programs in place on colleges and universities. They range from a bike response team at the University of Florida to an ambulance equipped team at Columbia University.

"Another important benefit of the program, besides increased response time, is that this will be college students dealing with college students," Eichenholz said. "I rode on a college emergency response team before I moved down here, and it does make a big difference to the injured person to be talking to one of their peers when they've broken their leg or suffered some other injury."

Currently, the UCF Response team is in the planning stages. An organizational meeting

**UCF Rescue
Organizational
Meeting
Tuesday, Nov.
26, 6 p.m.
CREOL Room 102**

for all interested students will be held tonight at 6 p.m. in the CREOL Building room 102.

"It takes more than one person to do all of the necessary things to get this program off the ground," Eichenholz said. "Right now, we need to get the group organized and then figure out our options as far as obtaining a vehicle and all the other necessary elements. That is why we are having this meeting. I encourage people from all majors to attend the meeting. This organization is open to any UCF student, faculty, staff or alumni who wants to participate. We are looking for people who are EMT's and paramedics as well as people who would like to receive training in emergency response."

Eichenholz said that each semester a 50-hour First Responder class will be offered to members of the organization.

"Someone could join UCF Rescue as a freshmen with no medical training, take the First Responder course, and then start responding to emergency calls," Eichenholz said. "As time progresses they could even take an EMT course later on."

The UCF Rescue is working on a constitution to submit to Student Government in order to solicit funding as a campus organization.

"This is a chance to do some real good things with Student Government money," Eichenholz said. "We would be providing a huge service to the UCF community."

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Campus Chat Room: Do you think professors are easily accessible outside the classroom?

“Yes, I think they are. I have never encountered a professor who does not have plenty of office hours.”



Kris Khoph, 19, biology

“Yes, I feel I can go to any professor on campus, knock on their door and know it will always be open to me.”

Joe Vasik, 19, music

“I feel the professors on campus are accessible. Whenever I am having any type of difficulty I know my professors are here to listen.”

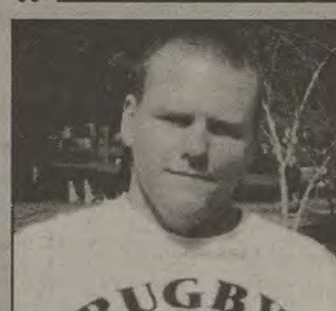


Aaron Lefkowitz, 23, music education



Debbie Mackey, 18, psychology

“I never want to see my instructors outside of class. I prefer to deal with them in a classroom rather than on an one on one basis.”



Brent Howard, 19, finance

“I don't know. I have never tried to contact one of my professors outside of class.”

•Compiled by
Christina Columbus

UCF attorney questions senate impeachment procedure

from IMPEACHMENT, page 1

Following the senate elections, Koenig and a member of Scavron's cabinet visited with Scavron. Koenig asked Scavron that he (Koenig) be appointed to the main at large seat. Accordingly, Scavron advised Koenig to turn in an application for consideration, just as other students who applied for the seat.

“For some reason, Mr. Koenig did not find this to be a suitable option. Instead, he found that my declining to immediately appoint him without consideration of the other applicants was putting him in a bad situation, and he said he would be forced to take action,” Scavron said.

At 2:30 a.m. Friday, a seven hour senate meeting concluded with the senate voting to look into alleged violations.

Many senators were falling asleep and others had moved for adjournment because they wished to vote on the impeachment issue at a more reasonable time.

However, a slight majority of senators refused to leave until the measure was voted on, even as

dawn approached and few students were around in the audience.

Despite the fact, the University General Counsel said the impeachment affidavit was invalid, the senate voted on sending the affidavit to the Legislative, Judicial and Rules committee for investigation.

In a memo sent from Mary Beth Liberto, university general counsel, to UCF Vice President of Student Affairs LeVester Tubbs, Liberto said “the processing of the documents was at odds with the Student Government's own constitution and statutes and did not comply with applicable Florida law.”

The memo further characterized the affidavit as invalid because the documents state conclusions of law, not facts; the documents do not demonstrate that Koenig has any personal knowledge of the facts; and that Koenig doesn't swear to the existence of the facts, but rather the “belief” that each affidavit's conclusive statements are true.

Senators voting for the investigation were adamant in pushing for a vote on the affidavit de-

spite Liberto's advice.

According to the SG constitution, the affidavit must contain preliminary evidence. Liberto found the affidavit contained none.

“Don't play this game of ‘Well, what's preliminary evidence and what isn't?’” Senator David Siegel said in favor of investigation.

Senators also voted to move

forward on impeachment proceedings on the Chief Election Commissioner and the Chief Justice, despite the fact that neither currently hold their positions.

“What we are learning now is how to be underhanded, unethical, distasteful, greedy, and above all, how to get away with it...I will not be pressured, blackmailed or extorted into something I believe

is not in the best interests of the students. Nothing will be accomplished for the student body this year unless we move forward from the tainted shadows of past problems. Some senators are resistant to move on. It's unfair to the students and clubs who depend upon senate representation. It's time to move on,” Scavron said during a speech to the senate.

Fines can be waived

from PARKING, page 1

sity,” referring to Florida statute 240.264 which states that “each university shall adopt rules which govern traffic... which the university finds necessary, convenient, or advisable for the safety and welfare of the students...”

University of South Florida's associate general counsel Hank Lavandera said “Normally the parking services is going to simply issue citations for people who are parked improperly, parked in a reserved spot or a meter that is expired. But anything that can be cited by a uniform traffic citation [yellow ticket] has to be issued by a sworn law enforcement officer. I'd have to research the subject to be absolutely certain, but I'm pretty con-

fident that parking services departments are not authorized to do that.”

According to Ina Carpenter, executive assistant of UCF's Parking Services, 192 tickets for expired tags were issued from Sept. 1 to Nov. 13; 69 of which had been paid, 61 of them voided, and 62 remain outstanding.

As for drivers who had renewed their tags but hadn't affixed the proper validation sticker, Carpenter said “If people show that they have already renewed their license tags but forgot to place their renewal sticker, we often waive their fine and cancel their ticket.”

But Carpenter had a word of advice to students. “You shouldn't be driving if you have an expired tag. You should take responsibility for your own actions.”

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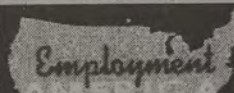
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Let's put the 'thanks' back in Thanksgiving

by CHRIS SMITH
Guest columnist

That sadistic twinge torturing my stomach can only be two things: either the Denny's Grand Slam breakfast I ate is not settling well, or Thanksgiving is close at hand.

I've always enjoyed Thanksgiving, but as I've aged I've learned the true meaning of this holiday. It masterfully blends the beauty of family values with the sacrilege of Jesus's upcoming birthday. For instance, I can no longer watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. The corporate vampires at Macy's use the television broadcast of their parade to brainwash the public into exposing their bank account's jugular vein. Luckily, I've developed a special chip which I installed into my television set to counter Macy's diabolical scheme. A sledge hammer is more effective but my parents have warned me that if I bust another TV I won't be welcomed home again for quite a while.

So, to avoid the risk of being black-balled, I usually walk out to my backyard and lay in the hammock. My father will come outside as well and we'll shoot the breeze for a while. After a couple of ice cold Buds, my gripes and irritations mellow.

Magically I'm transferred into a Norman Rockwell painting of a traditional joyous Thanksgiving day. At about 5:30 p.m. the entire Smith clan gathers around the dining room table and feasts on mom's delicious home fixins'. Pass the gravy.

Then, without fail, around the middle of dinner my mother will say to me, "So, what would you like for Christmas?"

Instantly I'm yanked back into reality. Thanksgiving in this modern, plastic, image importance, status seeking, commercial, sticker-price-a-measure-of-love world has been raped of its pure hearted and genuine tradition of family gathering and gratitude for the truly important things in one's life.

Nowadays, Thanksgiving is known as the day before the biggest shopping day of the year, Thanksgiving must regain its identity and step from the icy shadow of Christmas propaganda and bask in the sun once again. Congressmen, I plead for a law prohibiting the onslaught of Christmas propaganda and the very mention of this cancer until Nov 29.

Thanksgiving is sacred, unlike Christmas, where the judgment of how much you love someone is determined by the amount of monetary debt you fall into. No! Nov. 28 should remain pure. I am not sure, but when the Pilgrims were breaking bread with the Indians there probably wasn't a Pilgrim's mother who turned to him and said, "So, what would you like for Christmas?"

I have a question that I would like for someone to answer for me: Why, on Jesus Christ's birthday, do we in society celebrate by purchasing items we don't need and believe in some fat guy who doesn't look like he could fit in a compact car, let alone a chimney? On Christmas morning children should drop to their knees, look skyward and say "Thank you for your life and sacrifice," but no, the little brats run into their parent's room and yell, "Mommy! Daddy! Wake up and gimme! Gimme!"

In response to my mother's question, I turned to her last year and said, "Ask me tomorrow. Today I just want to enjoy being with my family without needing any financial payment or gift for my time."

Sexual harassment in the military must be stopped

☐ Women in the armed forces are there to fight for their country, but they're having to fight for their personal well-being first.

20/20 recently did a six-month study on sexual harassment in the military. I was shocked by the results—11,000 military women may have been sexually assaulted in one year! ONE YEAR!

It's all about power. A military man sees a military woman who is training as well as he is, maybe even better, and feels the need to put her in her place. So first, he teases her. He makes rude remarks about her body. Then, he propositions her. Invites her to his bunk later that night. When she refuses him, he becomes insulted and feels the need to take matters into his own hands, so he rapes her.

Yeah, that ought to make him feel like a man. He snuck into her bunk late at night, held a knife to her throat and threatened if she ever breathed a word about this

to anyone, he would kill her. The next day, he boasted and bragged to his close buddies about his conquest. Yeah, he was a real man now.

Naturally, this disgusts me. I mean, these women are in the armed forces for no other reason than to serve their country. Talk about unselfishness. And then these men have the nerve to take the pride they've established away from them because they feel threatened by the woman's competency. So, why don't they use this macho strength and energy in their training instead of abuse?

I understand that it's all about power with all rapists. The difference, however, is in the environment. The male soldiers are reverting back to the Neanderthal days of clubbing a woman on the head and dragging her by her hair back to his cave.

This assures them that man is master and woman is slave. And when they see some females in the military that have equal endurance and stamina, they pull out their club to show them who's boss.

I honestly wish I had a solution to this problem. I wish I could make those terrible memories go away for those victims. I wish those men could see the hurt, pain and humiliation those women have to endure. But, I'm not Superwoman. I can't do any of these things. I guess all I can do is pray for the victims to one day have peace of mind. And for the rapists, I just hope one day they learn that they are the real losers in this situation. Not only do they not have what it takes to see their own physical weaknesses, but they don't have what it takes to see the emotional strength in their surviving victims.

Olivia Curnow
Staff Columnist

What's the matter with people these days?

Seeing the world through rose-colored glasses...

Sometimes, I wonder about people these days. I mean, write one little column about the one thing that I hate, and I start a humungous debate; one that still shows no sign of ending.

Yes, you guessed it. I'm the one who started this whole homosexuality debate. Only the problem is that I didn't do it in order to create an actual debate. All I did was express an opinion, and the kicker was that it wasn't even about homosexuality. It was about ignorance. And for some reason, that particular part of it was so carefully overlooked.

Now don't get me wrong — I've always wanted to create a controversy of some kind. And I'm really happy that people are reading this paper (and more specifically, my column), but what I really hadn't counted on was the effect I'd have on all those people out there.

In any case, as I was saying, I wonder about people these days. I wonder about the people who run our country, for starters. Has anyone seen the commercial for that new game *Soviet Strike*? Throughout the whole thing, while there's a war going on, our government staunchly denies involvement. And then there's *Pandora's Clock*, that NBC-TV mini-series. The director of the CIA used an airplane filled with people who were supposedly going to die to destroy a terrorist group. And the President went along with the idea (even though it was mostly an unconscious thing).

The point I'm trying to make is simple: who knows what our government is doing these days? Do we know about any more of these doomsday viruses? Do we know about any wars that we're really not in? Sounds like the plot for a good Tom Clancy novel.

Speaking of novels, I've been wondering about writers in general. You see, I am a writer, working on novels, short stories, poetry and songs (shameless plug: visit my web site at <http://Pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~jir75401>), but even I at times don't know what's going on.

Josh Roseman
Staff Columnist

Writers spend a lot of their time in the clouds. They really don't have much of a grip on reality. I know I don't.

I wonder about television in general, and the people who work on it in particular. I mean, they get up in your face with those microphones, and ask questions like, "your whole family was just blown away by an insane guy from Spamsville, Montana. How do you feel?" They might ask you, "now that the President has condemned everyone with blue eyes, how are you going to react when you're marched off a cliff like a lemming?" Their questions are not only too far out there to even think about, but they're also mis-timed. Do you really think that someone who's just lost their whole family is really in the mood to talk to reporters? No. They want to go find their friends and mourn in peace.

Tell me, Mr. or Mrs. or Ms. or Miss TV Person, if you'd just had all your toes blown off with TNT, and your fin-

gernails scraped away with razor-blades by some insane weirdo with an extremity fetish, would you really like to go to channel 4, 6, 9 or 35 and talk about it? I don't think so. I think you'd have enough trouble talking to the police and detectives about it. Try to think about that the next time you watch TV and see someone shoving a microphone in the face of the five-year-old whose parents were just found murdered by your second-cousin-once-removed.

Let that be a lesson to everyone in broadcasting, as well.

On my way out, I think I'd like to toss a few Kudos bars (chocolate chip) to the people who have responded to my column, because I know that you all are inflamed enough to get up and *do something* about problems in our world, especially the problem of ignorance. We need more people out there who aren't afraid to stand up for what they believe in.

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11875 High Tech Ave., Suite 250, Orlando FL, 32817

News Staff

(407) 823-8054 ext 27

Fax: 823-9495

Managing Editor Denise Cullen
News Editor Ryan Anderson
Sports Editor Tim Springer
Features Editor Dean G. Lewis
Opinion/Autos Ed David Swartz Jr.
Web Editor.....Michael Scamehorn
Photo EditorBruce Soileau
Copy Editor Tracy Webb
Production Mgr..... Pete Matchett

Staff Writers: Michelle Abram, Brook Bennett, Krystie Crowe, Brian Gajewski, Samantha Kates, Keith Kramer, Ken Jackson, Jennifer Lindstrom, Michelle Martinez, Tony Mejia, Abbey Morrow, Arthur A. Paulk, Stephen Unger, Amy Wandel and Tracy Webb

Business Staff

(407) 823-8054 ext 21

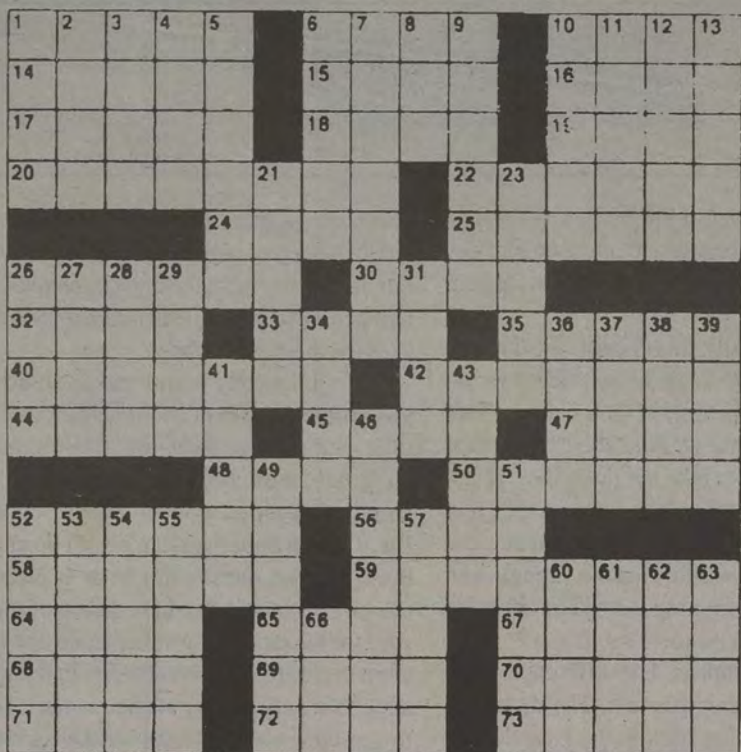
Fax: 823-9495

Publisher..... Steve Norris
Associate Publisher..... Don Bates
Advertising Mgr.... Don Bates Jr. (x 22)
Business Mgr Ben Thomas (x 23)
Distribution Manager..... Jon Evans
Classified Manager..... Brook Bennett
Sales Rep..... Matt Spalding

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features

arts and entertainment



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MOVIE TALK

"I'm very bad, you know. I have very wicked ideas. . . ."

- Jane Fonda
Klute (1971)

THE ANSWERS



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FILM

In Love and War

A genuinely affecting love story is at the heart of The *English Patient*, a film adaptation of the Booker Prize-winning novel by Canadian writer Michael Ondaatje. Ralph Fiennes (*Schindler's List*) gives a grand performance as Hungarian linguist Laszlo de Almasy, a map maker with the British Royal Geographical Society. As our story opens, a plane crash in the desert has terribly burned Almasy. Cared for by a tribe of nomads, the disfigured patient is transferred to the supervision of Hana (Juliette Binoche), a sensitive French Canadian nurse. She takes refuge in an abandoned Tuscan monastery in hopes the war will soon end. Naveen Andrews is Kip, a bomb-disposal expert from India called in to disassemble land mines. Hana finds comfort in Kip's arms while a stranger named Caravaggio (Willem Dafoe) asks for lodging in return for disarming the local partisans. As Hana reads to her dying patient the words of the Greek historian Herodotus, often dubbed the Father of History (sense the symbolic significance), writer-director Anthony Minghella invites us into his carefully constrained series of flashbacks, taking us back to the pre-war exploits of Almasy.

With his team of fellow sand-troopers, Almasy sets out on an expedition through the Sahara to chart its unexplored dunes. English aristocrats Geoffrey and Katherine Clifton (Colin Firth, Kristin Scott Thomas) soon join the safari. Katherine and Almasy eventually fall in love. The passion between the two heats up, most notably during a lovely courtyard Christmas dinner. As they make love under the covered temples and synagogues, a bagpipe rendition of *Silent Night* looms in the distance.

Minghella (*Truly, Madly, Deeply*) has accomplished the unthinkable in the social strata of Hollywood screenwriting. He takes the pen and transforms Ondaatje's dense novel into a sweeping, extraordinarily structured piece of literary adaptation. Assisted by a superb cast and eye-popping photography by ace lenser John Seale (*Witness*, the upcoming *Ghosts of Mississippi*), Minghella has brought together war stories and eternal love into a healing session, an epic drama that is, in every way, absorbing.

• Dean G. Lewis

★★★1/2 (out of four) A-
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DEREK GONSOULIN

Ambushed Knights should keep heads up

You begin a season with four new starters, most of whom are freshmen or transfers from junior college. You start your season on the road and in front of a crowd nearly three times as large as your home gym's capacity. The opposition has more experience and is expected to use you to test its new system.

UCF put those excuses behind them and played even with the Florida Gators—for about five minutes. That's when a hustling Gator press turned a 15-15 tie into a 37-17 lead faster than coach Kirk Speraw could say "time-out."

However, the Knights did prove some positives Friday night. Showing heart as well as talent, UCF kept the game close after a bad start, and thanks to Harry Kennedy and Brad Traina, the Knights proved they have an outside game.

Yet with 37 turnovers, a hideous stat regardless of the circumstance, the team has far to go in developing team chemistry. Florida has not had a successful full-court press in years and in one game UCF made them look like Kentucky.

With a young team it is hard to wait for the players to get used to each other. Even when the players start getting each other's timing down and learning the plays, they have to mature themselves as players.

Now that is not to say the Knights will struggle in every game this year, but at least early on, the squad would be advised not to pressure the young kids. Let Kennedy and the other returning players showcase their skills and take the weight off younger players' shoulders.

Mario Lovett's 12 point, eight-rebound performance off the bench was a prime example of how this is accomplished. By not starting, players like Lovett can watch the game and see how their teammates handle the situations they will encounter themselves soon enough.

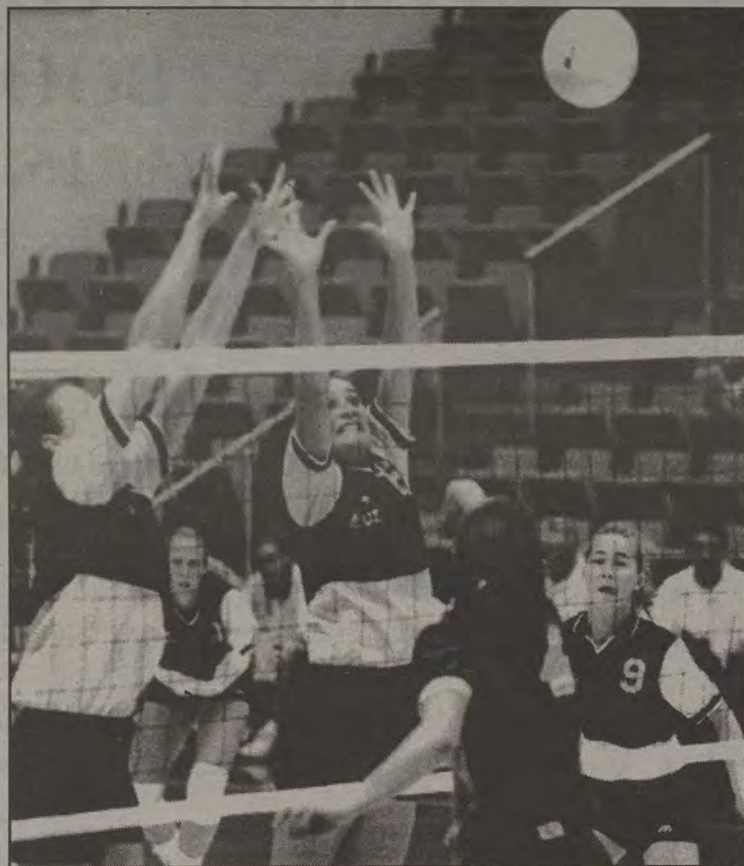
Speraw stressed the importance of getting Lovett and Davin Granberry acclimated to collegiate competition after the Knights' first preseason game.

"Lovett and Granberry don't realize what special players they can be. We need big contributions from them in order to have a good season," Speraw said.

Friday night's game may have been painful for the team and UCF fans, but come later this season the Knights will be a force to be reckoned with.

They will at least last longer than five minutes. We hope.

Knights capture TAAC Title



photo/SOILEAU

The Lady Knights rise above their conference foes en route to their third consecutive TAAC championship Saturday.

by TIM SPRINGER
Sports editor

Regular season domination of the Trans America Athletic Conference has become common for the Golden Knights' volleyball team. Some things never change.

The 1996 TAAC champion, Golden Knights, continued to reign supreme over TAAC foes as they captured the TAAC title Saturday afternoon at the UCF Arena.

Defeating the Lions of Southeastern Louisiana, 16-14, 15-7, 16-18, 15-7, the UCF volleyball team brought its streak of consecutive conference wins to 56.

Leading the Knights to victory was TAAC Player-of-the-Year Renata Menchikova (37 kills), TAAC Tournament MVP Tyra Harper (24 kills) and Stephanie Noiseux (12 kills). The trio was also named to the All-Tournament team.

The victory not only brings

a TAAC title to the program, it also gives the Knights (21-12) an opportunity to host Florida A&M (17-14), the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference champs, for a match that results in the winner making a trip to the NCAA tournament.

The Knights are looking for their third consecutive trip to the NCAA tournament and should be a heavy favorite over the Rattlers. Although the two teams have yet to match-up this season, FAMU is 2-7 versus TAAC competition.

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**•On the Line: An NCAA
tournament berth.**

Turnover plagued Knights fall to Gators

by TIM SPRINGER
Sports editor

Picking up where they left off last season, the Golden Knights men's basketball team took to the hardwood to face another challenging I-A opponent backed by a raucous crowd. The similarities didn't end there.

In UCF's 1995-96 season finale at the NCAA Tournament, the Running Knights battled the top-ranked Minutemen of the University of Massachusetts in the opening round of the 64-team national tournament.

Participating as the 64th seed, the Knights were expected to be blown out in the opening minutes by UMass. It didn't happen. The Knights trailed by a mere four points at the half and more than held their own. Then the flood gates opened.

UMass took over in the second half by pressuring the Knights more than a used car salesman. Six consecutive turnovers to open act two of the contest doomed that historic day. Friday night at the O'Connell Center there were five used car salesmen and flash-flood warnings on the court.

A live crowd of 7,549 crowded around the indoor version of 'The

Swamp' to witness the Florida Gators' version of freedom of the press. For 40 straight minutes the Gators gave the Knights all they could handle of a Kentucky Wildcat style defense en route to an 80-63 Florida victory.

Head Gator Billy Donovan, a former assistant under Rick Pitino, never let UCF get into a tempo they preferred. As a result, Florida forced a school record 37 turnovers. From the opening tip, Donovan had his Gators trapping the ball at every opportunity.

"Just looking at Central Florida's stat sheets from their two exhibitions, they were averaging twenty turnovers a game," Donovan said. "And with them being relatively young, I felt that forcing them to work on beating the press during the week would take them away from some of their other preparations."

Donovan's defensive strategy obviously worked, but UCF head coach Kirk Speraw seemed to have his Knights well prepared the few times they did get into their style of offense. The Knights shot a remarkable 60.9% from the field in the first half, including 4 of 8 from downtown.

Senior Harry Kennedy, who finished with 20 points, opened the



photo/SOILEAU

Freshman Mario Lovett slips past two Gator defenders for two of his 12 points in UCF's season opening loss to UF.

scoring by dropping one of his patented three point bombs while drawing a foul in the process. After Kennedy converted the four-point-play, the Gators ran off eight unanswered points. UCF battled back and eventually took a 15-13 lead early in the first half, but the Gators' high-octane defense saw

to it that the Knights would not lead again. The Florida full-court press proved to be too much for the Knights as they let possessions slip away along with their lead.

A 24-2 run gave the Gators the control they wanted, but the Knights continued to fight back from a 21 point first half deficit to cut the lead to 12.

"I thought we came back and battled," Speraw said. "After that run we could've caved in."

Trailing 49-36 at the half, the Knights came out determined not to lay down. After allowing the Gators to go up by 15, the Knights went on a 10-3 run to cut the lead to eight points with 8:23 remaining. Freshman forward Mario Lovett, who finished with 12 points, showed the poise of a seasoned veteran by hitting on 6 of 8 attempts from the field while grabbing eight boards to help the Knights get close, but soon the Gators slithered away.

"This kind of game will help us down the road because we'll meet more [pressing] teams," Speraw admitted. "We'll build on this game."



photo/SPRINGER